

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 21, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
The Capitol - H232
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker:

We write to you today to express our support for consideration and passage of a budget resolution for FY2011 that reduces our actual spending. We accept passing a budget as part of the responsibility of governing we accepted when first elected in 2008.

We inherited a fiscal and economic mess from the previous administration. Fully three-quarters of our debt is a result of the previous administrations policies. Nonetheless, it is our responsibility, since we are now in charge, to reduce our deficit and debt to sustainable levels.

We have already begun that work. We passed Statutory PAYGO, which helped successfully bring our budgets from deficits to surplus in the 1990s. We are supporting the President's lower spending levels and applaud his suggested freeze in discretionary spending. Hopefully the President's Debt Commission will provide a long term path to responsibility in our increasingly expensive entitlement programs.

However, we must do more now. The world is watching to see if we can get our fiscal house in order. The final stage of the recovery will not occur until we show American taxpayers and foreign interests that we have the will power Greece lacks.

We ask for an overall reduction in spending, not an across the board cut. Increased funding for some programs may be justified, but any increases for one program must be off-set by cuts in other, less critical, programs. These hard choices need to be part of our appropriations discussions and decisions this year.

The American people deserve a Congress willing to make the difficult and responsible choices necessary to provide for their long term prosperity. On behalf of our constituents, we ask you to bring an FY2011 Budget Resolution to the Floor of the House providing for a reduction in federal spending over the next three years to be followed by a freeze thereafter.

The ARRA was necessary to stop the death spiral into a depression. It is now time to pull back and thoughtfully rebalance our budget and keep America's faith. If we do not, as John Podesta says, we will be making deep cuts and be unable to afford to support critical education, health, and defense programs in the near future.

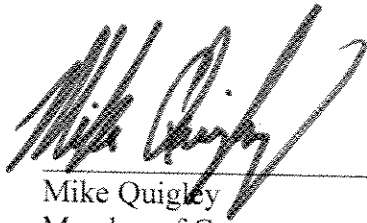


Scott Murphy
Member of Congress

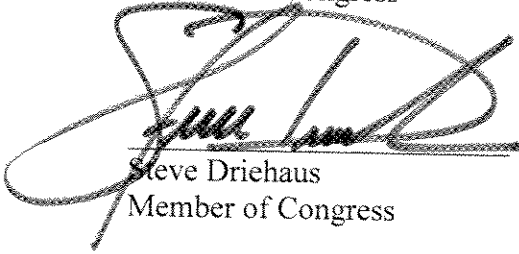
Sincerely,



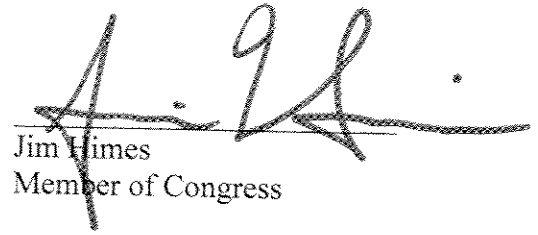
Larry Kissell
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Steve Driehaus
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress